(b) and (c) Specific complaint regarding discrimination has not been received from any State.

(d) There is no proposal for revision of said programme.

(e) Does not arise.

Flood/Drought in Bihar

†3095. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for problem of floods in North Bihar and drought in South Bihar;

(b) the number of proposals received by State Government and Central Government regarding solution of these problems and by whom;

(c) the action taken on these proposals;

(d) the reasons for laxity and negligence in addressing such serious problems being faced in Bihar; and

(e) the steps to be taken for improving the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (e) Flood and drought are natural phenomenon. Recurrent floods problem in North Bihar is, however, linked with the flood waters brought by rivers flowing from Nepal. A number of reservoir schemes have been envisaged in the Nepal territory on these rivers such as, Saptkosi High Dam at Barahkshetra, Bagmati Multipurpose project at Noonthar, Kamala Dam at Chisapani, etc., to store the flood water. The Government of India has set up a Joint Project Officer (JPO) at Biratnagar (Nepal) in August 2004 to undertake field surveys and investigations in order to conduct feasibility and prepare the project reports of the aforesaid projects.

State Government of Bihar has also undertaken the raising, strengthening and extension of existing flood embankments on the rivers, namely, Kosi, Gandak, Burhi Gandak, Lalbakeya, Baghmati and Kamla Balan to contain the flood waters, with Central assistance.

As per the information available from the Government of Bihar, the State Government has identified six intra-state rivers links to divert the excess flood water from flood affected to rain-deficient areas in order to overcome the problem of floods in North Bihar and drought in South Bihar.

Farmer participatory action research programme

3096. PROF. M.S. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the Farmer Participatory Action Research Programme of the Ministry;

(b) the number of farmers included, the number of institutions participating and the results obtained during the Khariff, 2007; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.